

STATE AND COUNTY

Linn and Neighboring County News Briefly Recorded

There are thirty-five graves of veterans of the civil war in the Meadville cemetery to be decorated today.

The Farmers Co-Operative Com-at Bogard has let the contract for a brick store building 30x80 feet and construction will begin at once.

Missouri is a great live stock state. A Sikeston cattle man sold 32 head of Herefords recently for \$29,375, and a 690 pound hog at Butler sold for \$113.50.

Newtown Chronicle:—Miss Geraldine Reed went to Laclede, Tuesday, where she will spend several weeks with her uncle, E. G. Harrison and family, on their farm near there.

A special election will be held in Browning next Tuesday to vote on a proposition of extending the corporate limits, annexing a chunk from both Linn and Sullivan county.

Sumner Star:—The bottom farmers who swore—some of them cussed—that they'd never go back to Grand River have returned there and are planning for a bumper corn crop.

In view of the many robberies and holdups that are now taking place in nearly every town and city, Linneus has employed Capt. Wm. Tripper as night watch and he went on duty last week.

E. A. Hawkins, who has been agent for the Burlington at Brookfield for the past eleven years, has been promoted to freight inspector with headquarters at St. Joseph. He has been succeeded at Brookfield by S. M. Dudley of Kansas City.

The ministerial alliance at Unionville has issued a statement that it is their belief that the community is getting lower in moral tone day by day and charges that the dance and cards in private and public places are largely responsible for the alarming condition.

R. W. Powell, late candidate for superintendent of Linn county schools, has been elected superintendent of the public schools at Bethany at a monthly salary of \$190.00, and his wife was elected teacher in the primary department of same school at \$70 per month.

Linneus News:—Col. J. B. Fleming has sold his fine farm adjoining the city of Linneus on the southwest and known as the Dr. J. W. Lane farm to Earl McKelvie of north of Meadville. This tract of 180 acres is in high state of cultivation and brought the fancy price of \$125.00 per acre. Possession will be delivered March 1, 1920.

Sumner Star:—If there is anything in signs, there will be no more overflows this year, and possibly not for a period of ten years. The first of the week fishermen dragged the lakes west of town and the sum total of their efforts was two turtles. The old-timers contend that when the fishes go out of the lakes with receding floods the lakes are sure to go dry before there is another high water. Let us hope.

The sporting editor of the Marceline Herald doesn't like the idea of having to pay one dollar for the privilege of sitting on the bank of some mud hole and fighting mosquitos. Hear him: "That new Missouri law requiring anyone who goes fishing to have a

license, price one dollar, is about the most senseless, brainless and fooliest piece of legislation ever heard of since law-makers tried to make fools of themselves."

Linneus Bulletin:—We know of some high school students who recently sent to a foreign out-of-the-state printing house for their commencement invitations without even consulting their home printing houses which have always freely supported the schools and other institutions in their editorial and news columns got just what they deserved—much less satisfactory results, quality and price both considered, than they could have gotten in their home town.

Linneus News:—The annual business meeting of the executive board of the Linn County Farm Bureau was held Saturday afternoon in the office of County Agent Ross Nichols. Full attendance was recorded. During this session the matter of entering into a contract for another year with Mr. Nichols was before the board for its disposition and after the matter of salary had been agreed upon Mr. Nichols was unanimously asked to remain another year as county agent which he consented to do. His salary will be \$2300.00 for the year beginning July 1, 1919.

Wheat Needs Sunshine

Farmers are becoming uneasy over the condition of wheat. The grain has grown rank and in places it is falling down. Lack of sunshine, too much rain and too much cold weather for the season is the cause of alarm. It is stated that along the Missouri River Valley, one of the greatest wheat belts of the state, conditions are far from satisfactory. Outside of the valleys the wheat is standing straight save in a few localities north of the Missouri River, where hail and wind caused damage.

All reports say that wheat is needing sunshine, and that a week of bright, warm weather would change condition for the better. Generally, it is said, the crop is free from destructive insects and other causes that frequently cut the expectations of the agriculturalists short.

Swat Roosters and Save Millions

Roosters not needed as breeders should be put in the same class as flies when it comes to swatting. It is estimated by the United States department of agriculture that \$15,000,000 worth of eggs spoil yearly simply because they are fertile. Fertile eggs, when subjected to high summer temperature, begin to hatch just as when placed in an incubator or under a hen, and even though the process continues but a short time the egg becomes unfit for food. This spoilage of eggs can be entirely prevented by swatting or disposing of the rooster after the breeding season is over. The campaign for the production of infertile eggs has been waged several years by poultry specialists, and is being taken up with renewed vigor in states where summer temperatures are highest and losses are greatest. Weeks have been designated, "Swat the Rooster" for the sale of surplus male birds. Enormous quantities of roosters, not needed and being fed needlessly, have been marketed during such weeks. It is much more generally understood that hens will lay just as well without a male in the flock.

Notice to Teachers

The next examination for teachers will be held at the high school building in Brookfield, Friday and Saturday, June 6 and 7. J. F. Hortensine, county superintendent.

ANTIQUITY OF DECORATIVE ART

Strange Sources From Which Pigments Used by Modern Painters Are Derived.

PRESERVATION OF SURFACES.

Crude but Effective Processes Employed by the Egyptians and Greeks of Pliny's Day—Noah Prudently Waterproofed the Ark.

Whether paint was invented in answer to a need for a preservative or to meet a desire for beauty is a question fully as knotty as the ancient one about the relative time of arrival of the chicken or the egg. It was invented, though, and it serves both purposes equally; so whether it is an offspring of mother necessity or an adopted son of beauty remains forever a disputed question.

The first men, cowering under the fierce and glaring suns of the biblical countries, constructed rude huts of wood to shelter them. The perishable nature of these structures caused rapid decay, and it is probable that the occupants, seeking some artificial means of preservation, hit upon the pigments of the earth in their search. It is perhaps natural to suppose that it was the instinct of preservation that led men to the search, although the glories of the sunsets and the beauties of the rainbow may have created a desire to imitate those wonders in their own dwellings.

The earliest record of the application of a preservative to a wooden structure dates from the ark, which was, according to the Bible, "pitched within and without." The pitch was a triumph of preservation whatever it lacked as a thing of beauty.

Decoration applied to buildings first comes to light with ancient Babylon, whose walls were covered with representations of hunting scenes and of combat. These were done in red and the method followed was to paint the scene on the bricks at the time of manufacture, assuring permanence by baking. Strictly speaking, this was not painting so much as it was the earliest manifestation of our own familiar kalsomining.

The first Hebrew to mention painting is Moses. In the thirty-third chapter of the book of Numbers he instructs the Israelites, "When ye have passed over the Jordan into the land of Canaan, then shall ye drive out all the inhabitants of the land from before you and destroy all their pictures."

At later periods the Jews adopted many customs of the peoples who successively obtained power over them and in the apocryphal book of the Maccabees is found this allusion to the art of decorating, "For as the master builder of a new house must care for the whole building, but he that undertaketh to set it out and paint it, must seek out things for the adorning thereof."

Although Homer gives credit to a Greek for the discovery of paint, the allusions to it in the books of Moses, the painted mummy cases of the Egyptians and the decorated walls of Babylon and Thebes fix its origin at a period long antecedent to the Grecian era. The walls of Thebes were painted 1,900 years before the coming of Christ and 998 years before "Omer smote his bloomin' lyre."

The Greeks recognized the value of paint as a preservative and made use of something akin to it on their ships. Pliny writes of the mode of boiling wax and painting ships with it, after which, he continues, "neither the sea, nor the wind, nor the sun can destroy the wood thus protected."

The Romans, being essentially a warlike people, never brought the decoration of buildings to the high plane it had reached with the Greeks. For all that the ruins of Pompeii show many structures whose mural decorations are in fair shape today. The colors used were glaring. A black background was the usual one and the combinations worked thereon red, yellow and blue.

In the early Christian era the use of mosaics for churches somewhat supplanted mural painting. Still, during the reign of Justinian the Church of Saint Sophia was built at Constantinople and its walls were adorned with paintings.

In modern times the uses of paint have come to be as numerous as its myriad shades and tints. Paint is unique in that its name has no synonym and for it there is no substitute material. Bread is the staff of life, but paint is the life of the staff.

No one thinks of the exterior of a wooden building now except in terms of paint coated. Interiors, too, from painted walls and stained furniture down to the lowliest kitchen utensil, all receive their protective covering. Steel, so often associated with cement

PAINT UP
Clean-Up

Join this great national movement in which

Mound City Paint

is in the lead. Goes farther and outlasts all other paint on the market

W. R. BARTON, Druggist

re-enforcing, is painted before it goes to give solidity to the manufactured stone. The huge girders of the skyscrapers are daubed an ugly but efficient red underneath the surface coat of black. Perhaps the best example of the value of paint on steel is found in the venerable Brooklyn bridge, on which a gang of painters is kept going continually. It is scarce possible to think of a single manufactured article which does not meet paint somewhere in the course of its construction. So has paint grown into the very marrow of our lives.

QUESTIONNAIRE

ANSWERS WHICH WILL SOLVE PERPLEXING PROBLEMS OF THIS RECONSTRUCTION ERA.

Query.—The government has launched an educational campaign to encourage building in order to put more men to work. Would not a similar movement to show how the old structures can be best and most economically repaired and made good as new also help?

Answer.—It is learned that such a plan is in effect and is linked directly with the Washington propaganda.

Industry must be turned back from works of war to the ways of peace. Employment must be found, in the meanwhile, for those whose occupation has been interrupted. There is no real surplus of labor in the United States. Rather there is a shortage, which would be acute if normal conditions were already restored, and one step towards restoring them will come with resumption of repair work.

Government restrictions, imposed by the necessities of the war program, have for many months past retarded, or altogether prevented construction, improvement and repairs. These restrictions are now off, and there is scarcely a town, a city, a factory, a dwelling or a farm that does not reveal a crying need for prompt attention. Nothing delays such instant action except the feeling that prices are high for the time being and may be lower.

That is not logical. No matter what it costs to repair, the cost is less than the cost of neglect. No matter what the cost of paint, the wind and the weather will collect a higher bill in deterioration and decay.

Query.—What do you think of paint as an investment, aside from the appearance it lends? Does it really PAY to paint a house regularly, say, every three or four years?

Answer.—Good paint properly applied when needed is the main thing in making a house last long and well. A house worth \$2,500 can be painted at a cost of about \$125. In 60 years that house will need about 15 paintings, the total cost of which will be \$1,800. Left without paint, such a house would fall into complete ruin in 30 years. So taking 60 years as a basis for our figures we find that with paint a home will last that time in good condition and will cost, plus paint, \$4,375. Without paint the house would have to be rebuilt at the end of 30 years and would be ready for another complete renovation when the sixtieth year arrived. Cost, without paint, \$5,000 for a home ready to fall to pieces. Does regular painting pay? As the old Dutch adage says:

"PAINT PAYS FOR ITSELF."

Query.—I have a quantity of old paint on hand. Can I use it for the first coat in repainting my barn?

Answer.—On no account should old paint which has become fat be used for priming either old or new work. Old paint in that condition is best used on a fence, brickwork or tinwork. If

you value your barn sufficiently to paint it, do it the justice of a good job.

U. S. Invents Anti-Rust "Dope."

Incident to the war, the government has faced the problem that has so long proved baffling to commercial concerns of protecting iron and steel from rust. In an attempt to solve this federal specialists have perfected various forms of protective coatings. In this connection it may be pertinent to ask whether commercial uses will not be found also for the so-called "dopes" which the government has invented to be applied to airplane wings and which are possessed of valuable weather-resisting and fireproof qualities.

EFFECT OF COLOR UPON THE DURABILITY OF PAINT.

Property owners who may have under consideration the painting of dwellings and other structures should remember that more durable results are obtained when tinted paints are used. Permanent coloring materials which have been ground by machine into a high grade white paint base have the effect of preventing "chalking" and "checking," two defects which are often observed when white paints are used.

Repeal Ice Cream Soda Tax

Repeal of the ten per cent tax on ice cream soda and other soft concoctions is provided in a bill introduced in the house by Representative Longworth, of Ohio, a member of the ways and means committee, and in the senate by Senator James E. Watson, of Indiana, a member of the finance committee, and it is likely that the republican majority in both bodies will see that the tax is removed before the summer is over.

"This tax," said Longworth, "imposes an unnecessary and obnoxious burden upon the people in their enjoyment of a harmless drink. The majority in congress will easily find other means of getting sufficient revenue, especially by protection on imports, besides taking the extra penny or two from the young people of the country. And this, of course, also has reference to all of that section of the present law which has to do with taxation on ice cream and other sweet preparations. In addition to this imposition upon the public, the tax is bad because it is proving very difficult and unsatisfactory in its administration. It is pretty generally believed by the treasury experts that it costs more to collect it than it yields to the government."

Men advertise courses to improve the memory when they would cause greater happiness by giving courses in forgetting things.

If you are a toad you'll hop when anybody pokes a stick at you. Really one shouldn't be a toad.

A woman always has the last word—and incidentally about 90 per cent of the preceding conversation.